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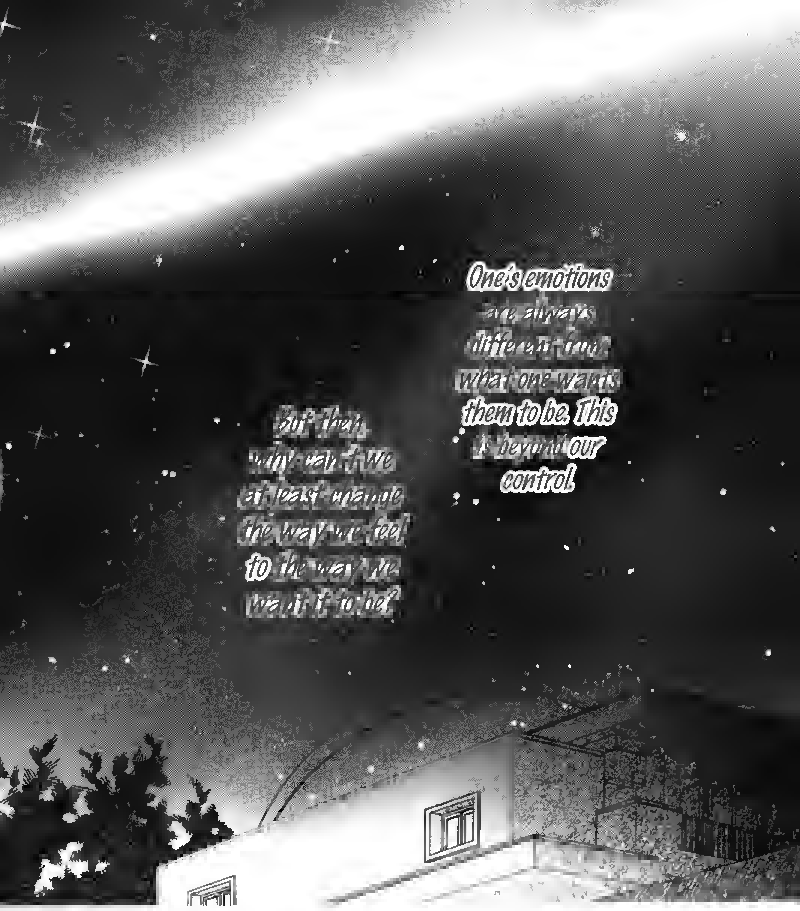
Final Game


One's emotions are always different from what one wants them to be. This is beyond our control.
But that's why we're able to be the way we are to the way we want to be.

AT THIS HOUR OF THE NIGHT
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?
Pant
Pant
Pant
WE'RE JUST HAVING A 1-ON-1 GAME!
WE'RE JUST.. SOMEHOW VERY ENERGETIC, SO..
HEY HEY, YOU CAN'T JUST PLAY ALL-OUT.
JUST BECAUSE YOU FEEL LIKE IT..
IT WILL AFFECT TOMORROW'S PRACTICE
IT'S ALRIGHT! WE JUST WANT TO PRACTICE AS HARD AS POSSIBLE NOW
YEAH.
YEP

"Go to Michiyo's side."
I wonder what he's talking to her about right now.
HEY SEKISU-CHI
IT'S ABOUT ANDOU KOUTA.
HE LEFT IN A HURRY BECAUSE HIS COUSIN WAS HOSPITALIZED
REALLY?
YEP, I THINK HE WILL QUIT PLAYING FOR THE TIME BEING
I SEE, OKAY THEN
The two of us have finally realized
I CALLED ANDOU, CHOKU,
AND I ASKED HIM TO STAY WITH MICHIYO-SAN FOR THE TIME BEING
I SEE
The two of them are in love with each other

Just like it is now...
Without Andou's partnering, the training camp will still continue.
Even if I return to the normal training, it will be without him...
I had almost...
fallen in love with him.
DID I REALIZE MY OWN FEELINGS WITH THIS KIND OF TIMING... GAH.
GAH, WHY...
Well then night
Uh, yeah!

I SAID THAT SHE'D BE UNDERGOING A SURGERY,
BUT I WONDER HOW IT TURNED OUT
with Michiyo san.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST CONTACT HER?
Michiyo-san.
BECAUSE EVEN IF I...
AND YOU CHOKU?
CON-TACTING ANDOU?
WHY SHOULD I—
THERE'S NOTHING IMPORTANT I NEED TO CONTACT HIM ABOUT
IS THAT SO?
YEAH...
AH!
WAIT!
THERE'S SOMETHING, CHOKU

ABOUT THE NEXT PRACTICE, THE FIRST YEARS WILL HAVE TO PARTICIPATE AS WELL,
SO I DISCUSSED ANDOU'S SITUATION WITH THE CAPTAIN
See, because that guy hasn't been practicing
AND CAPTAIN ASKED ME TO FIND OUT IF HE WANTS TO TAKE PART
ANDOU
Public Hospital
THAT GUY, HE REALLY FAITHFULLY CAME TO VISIT MICHIYO-SAN.
YEAH, THAT'S HOW IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE
Just like it was broken, just like it is painful.
EXCUSE ME, HAYAKAWA MICHIYO-SAN'S ROOM IS ?
Run, and I just couldn't say, We can just call it a day, and ended up coming here.
BUT NOW, WHAT KIND OF FACE SHOULD I MAKE WHEN I MEET HIM...?
SENPAI?

This is way too sudden...
LONG TIME NO SEE
CHOKU-SENPAI AND..
RIN-SENPAI
PERFECT TIMING,

I WAS THINKING OF GOING TO SCHOOL TODAY
AH.
YES
BUT THE PRACTICE HAS ALREADY ENDED
HER SURGERY WAS SUCCESSFUL
REALLY?!
YES
BUT SHE'S STILL SLEEPING NOW
I SEE
CHOKU-SENPAI
RIN-SENPAI
UM,
YEAH
FOR ALL THESE THINGS THANK YOU VERY MUCH
I WONDER IF THAT WAS A TALK...
THAT DAY
"Kouta?!"
-DID YOU TALK TO HER PROPERLY?

DID RIN-KUN TELL YOU THAT?
IT WASN'T A BIG DEAL
IT WAS JUST BECAUSE I WASN'T FEELING WELL AFTER THE PREVIOUS SURGERY
I HEARD THAT YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED
I WAS REALLY A LITTLE NERVOUS.
BUT...
KOUTA,
CAN YOU DO ME A FAVOR?
I'M REALLY HAPPY THAT YOU CAME

WHEN I GET DISCHARGED, CAN YOU PLAY ME A PIANO PIECE AS A CELEBRATION?
YOU CAN'T?

IT WAS JUST LIKE THAT.
OKAY, I UNDERSTAND.
WASN'T THAT GOOD ENOUGH?
THEN AS I THOUGHT,
THE COMPETITION WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU.
WITH THAT, MICHIYO-SAN WILL WORK HARD TO MAKE SURE THAT THE SURGERY TURNS OUT WELL.

COMPETITION?
THIS YEAR'S PRACTICE MATCH
THE FIRST YEARS WILL TAKE PART TOO,
BUT YOU SHOULDN'T BE PRACTICING FOR BASKETBALL RIGHT NOW, RIGHT, ANDOU?
YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE CARE OF...
THIS HAND,
IN ORDER NOT TO JAM YOUR FINGER WHILE PLAYING SOCCER
I'M TAKING PART IN THE COMPETITION
I WILL GO TO THE COMPETITION,
AND OF COURSE, I'LL START THE PRACTICE FROM TOMORROW ONWARDS.

I WASN'T FOOLING AROUND, SO...
SENPAI, I...
BUT—
AND WHAT I SAID BEFORE THE TRAINING
"If I win, please be my girlfriend."
WHAT SENPAI HAS TAUGHT ME...
I WANT TO PROVE I MEANT IT.

SO I'D LIKE TO PARTICI-PATE.
OKAY.
SO IN RETURN, YOU REALLY HAVE TO WORK HARD FOR IT
IT'S NOT OKAY TO ASSUME YOU'LL JUST GET TO PARTICIPATE

YES!
ANDOH ...THAT GUY,
SOMEHOW CHANGED?
IN THE PAST HE USED TO PUT A SERIOUS FACE ON AT WEIRD ISSUES,
BUT HE'S MATURED, RIGHT? A LITTLE...
HE'S TAKEN RESPONSIBILITY AND IS TRYING TO SEE IT THROUGH TO THE END
Be it with basketball or with me.
It was different from when he escaped from the piano and Michiyo-san.

I'M REALLY SORRY THAT I TOOK A LONG BREAK
YES!
Oh now you really have to work doubly hard to get back.
Then let's warm up!
...if I've come to a decision about my feelings.

BAM
JUMPS
BE FEARLESS
Dunk
BOUNCE
AH
A ha ha
JUST LIKE I THOUGHT, YOUR ACCURACY ISN'T GREAT,
YOUR REBOUNDS ARE GOOD THOUGH

BUT DURING TODAY'S PRACTICE...
THERE WILL BE GUYS THAT ARE STRONGER AND TALLER THAN YOU.
NO WORRIES.
I WENT EASY ON YOU JUST NOW. I WASN'T PUTTING IN ALL MY EFFORT.
BECAUSE SENPAI SOMEHOW IS STILL A GIRL.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "SOMEHOW"?
HAHA
Soon...
this kind of time will end.
THEN SHALL WE GO FOR ANOTHER GAME?
OPEN

EKH
WHY ARE YOU
here?

FOR THAT
I ASKED HER OVER
TODAY IS THE MATCH, SO I WAS WONDERING IF SHE COULD COME
BE FEARLESS

CLOSE
BYE SEE YOU LATER
THERE'S STILL TIME BEFORE EVERYONE COMES, SO YOU CAN PLAY ALL YOU WANT
Running
RE FEARLESS
FEARLES

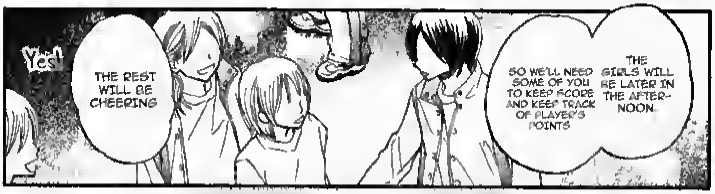
ACTUALLY
RIN-KUN ALSO CAME TO ME YESTERDAY
"Andou will be participating as well, so please come and support him."
He would be happy."
REALLY
THEY'RE TOO LIVELY, SO MUCH THAT I MIGHT HATE IT
THEY ARE TOO DIFFERENT FROM US
BE FEARLESS

THE PIANO,
MIC-CHAN
WHY DON'T WE PLAY TOGETHER?

T/N Staccato has a rapid, sharp, energetic feel. Forte is both loud and strong.

A hm hm
YOU WOULD SAY THAT KOUTA, WASN'T IT BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN BEATEN BY HER PREVIOUSLY?
And she was quite strong.
I THINK IT'S A TOTAL OF THREE ATTACKS
How could that be
YOU'RE KID-DING?

ROGER!
THAT'S IT FOR THE STARTERS
I INTEND TO SLOWLY SUBSTITUTE FOR YOU ALL LATER.


Yes!
THE REST WILL BE CHEERING
SO WE'LL NEED SOME OF YOU TO KEEP SCORE AND KEEP TRACK OF PLAYER'S POINTS
THE GIRLS WILL BE LATER IN THE AFTER-NOON.

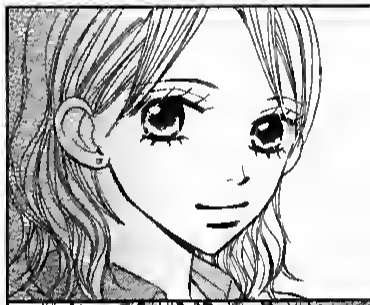
Push
Push
Sakurano
22
WOW THIS UNIFORM LOOKS GOOD ON YOU!
I WILL MAKE THE SHOT!
DO YOUR BEST TO MAKE THE SHOT!
CHOKU-SENPAI

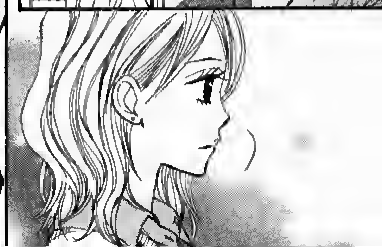
THAT'S WHY
WILL YOU BE MY GIRLFRIEND AFTER I MAKE THE SHOT?

Get in position!
...WHAT?
I REALLY MEAN IT.
...What?

RIN-KUN,
DO YOUR BEST!
Sakurano

wasn't he with Michiyo-san?
YES! Fight!
Sakurano!
Why...
wasn't—





WHISTLE

Hey, wait!
What is this?
Hey, Andou,
"If I win, please be my girlfriend."
"I'm serious."
because I...
because weren't you...
"I really mean it."
ANDOU!